

Neijuan (内卷) is a Chinese expression explaining internal depletion and growth without development due to intense competition (*nei* stems for 'inner' and *Juan* for 'circle'). Group anxiety generated by *neijuan* is particularly evident among younger generations as a result of increasing economic competition.

- By Haoxuan Mao, Alumnus, School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London, UK | Click [here](#) to see further explanations

“内卷”与“躺平”之间挣扎的中国年轻人

- 王凡
- BBC 中文记者

2021 年 6 月 2 日

Read entire online article here: <https://www.bbc.com/zhongwen/simp/chinese-news-57304453>

Week 10

Monday/Wednesday Reading and annotation:

1. We will read the news article (see below) in class
2. You will need to annotate the words underlined

Friday Assignment:

3. Provide a readable English translation of the entire article
4. Provide a short summary in Chinese (about 200-250 characters) – please provide word count

“内卷”与“躺平”是当下中国 **90 后**甚至 **00 后**们常常挂在嘴边的词。一个指向“过度竞争”，一个代表“退出竞争”，这两个截然相反的词折射出年青一代对中国社会竞争白热化的挫折感。

27 岁的孙珂来自中国东部一座小城，家境优渥。与数千万初入社会的年轻人一样，他想要通过自己努力，在大城市买房买车，站稳脚跟。他认为想要实现这个目标不会太难。过去二三十年间，对于享受“改革开放”红利的几代中国人来说，有房有车、成为中产已经形成一条既定的社会上升通道，甚至白手起家、成为千万富翁的励志故事也比比皆是。

凭借父母的资助和自己存下的一点钱，他认为自己可以与社交媒体上他时常看到的其他创业发家故事一样，很快过上想要的生活。2018 年底，从学校毕业后不久，他和朋友在上海一座大学附近开了一家食品店，两人共投资 65 万元人民币。

很快他便意识到，市场的饱和与竞争的激烈超出他的预期，想要赚钱已经不像父母一辈人那么容易。.....

“所有新商家为了活下来都在倒贴钱做生意，一个新店要做成功真的就像登天一样难。”哪怕每天早上六七点起床，凌晨三四点回家，他的生意仍然没有起色。

2020年，面对亏损100多万的现实，他们最终选择关掉这间店。在他看来，自己的经历与许多同龄人在不同领域面临的困境一样，是“社会内卷化”的一种表现。

By the end of Wednesday, share the following in a Google Doc (260HW10_名字):

1. Annotation: List all the underlined words

(sample format) 认为: rènwéi; to think, to believe

2. English Translation: Provide an English translation of the article – make sure your English is grammatically correct and readable.

By the end of Friday/Sunday, share/complete the following in a Google doc (260HW11_名字):

3. Chinese Summary: Based on the article we read and discussed in class, compose a short summary of in Chinese (about 200-250 characters)

4. Start working on the summary in class on Friday and complete by the end of the weekend (Sunday)